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FORMER CIA DIRECTOR PREDICTS LENGTHY U.S. PRESENCE IN GRENADA
BY LOUIS TOSCANO

Former CIA Director Stansfield Turner predicted Wednesday U.S. troops will be in Grenada "for a much longer stay than we now realize" in order to prevent a new Marxist government from seizing power.

Without an American military presence, the Cuban-trained Grenadan army will overthrow a U.S.-backed government and return Marxists to power, a development that would "deeply embarrass" the Reagan administration, Turner said.

"My concern is that we're going to have to stay there longer than we think," he told reporters before a speech to New Jersey educators. "The Pentagon says the Marines may be brought back in five or six days. That isn't likely. We're in for a much longer stay than we now realize."

About 1,900 Marines and Army Rangers, joined by troops from seven Caribbean nations, landed on Grenada Tuesday. President Reagan said the invasion was mounted to protect American citizens on the island, and also had been requested by neighboring Caribbean nations.

Turner, who headed the CIA under President Carter, said he supported the invasion, although he discounted claims by some officials the presence of Cuban and Russian advisers in Grenada was a threat to the security of the U.S.

He said the action is almost certain to blemish the reputation of the U.S. among other nations, including vital European and Latin American allies.

"I'm most concerned about the damage to this hemisphere," Turner said. "These (Latin American) countries have some bitter memories about American military intervention over the years, and this could really widen the gulf between us."

Turner applauded the administration's determination to "intervene overseas in a substantial way" when U.S. interests are threatened, calling it a "major shift" away from the post-Vietnam "syndrome" of non-interventionism.

He warned the Grenada invasion may be attacked by other nations as an example of a U.S. version of the "Brezhnev Doctrine," a policy enunciated by former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, who said the Soviet Union was entitled to intervene in the affairs of any nation under the Soviet sphere of influence.

"I think it's a logical policy of not standing back when the United States' interests are jeopardized," he said. "Now we have to see if he can pull it off by getting the people out of there soon."